

WOMEN MARCH IN LINCOLN



On Saturday, millions of women around the world gathered in peaceful protest to voice their concerns about the election and inauguration of Donald Trump.

The protests within the United States claimed over 3 million attendees, making it one of the largest protests in American history. Marches were held in every major state in America, including Lincoln and Omaha, as well as every continent (including a boat of protestors in Antarctica).

Many protestors wore pink knitted hats with pointy cat ears, commenting on President Trump's leaked "Access Hollywood" remarks.

Courtesy Photo

Laura Lyons, sophomore, stands with the estimated 2 thousand protestors outside the Nebraska State Capitol Saturday. The march was orchestrated to show solidarity with hundreds of other marches and over 5 million protestors worldwide. The goal of these marches was to show support for equality in all forms. "There was an incredible sense of unity and support during the march," said Lyons. "When it ended the future felt brighter than it had before."

Adults should give youth sports back to kids



DAVID MUELLER
Antelope Staff

It's safe to say I wouldn't be the person I am today without sports. Before I can trace my first memory I was involved in a wide array of teams and

for that, I'm thankful.

Youth sports offer many benefits that sometimes get overlooked. Kids learn life lessons, healthy exercise habits and build meaningful relationships in the process.

Today nearly 40 million children participate in youth sports across the country. But, an overwhelming majority do not last.

Roughly 70 percent quit by age 13, according to John O'Sullivan, Founder and CEO of Changing the Game Project, an initiative to improve youth sports.

Personally, it's alarming and saddening to see this statistic. Youth athletics are supposed to be enjoyable and aid as a teaching mechanism. Why are so many kids quitting?

The answer is very simple. It's not fun anymore and adults are mostly to blame.

The culture of youth sports has drastically changed, even since my time



By: L. A. Bonté



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The Thompson Scholars Learning Community program wishes to recognize the following Thompson Scholar students for outstanding academic achievement at UNK during the Fall 2016 term. These Thompson Scholars earned at least a 3.5 GPA while completing full-time enrollment and were recognized on the UNK Dean's List.



Fall 2016

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Baseball season right around the corner



PAULA JIMENEZ-SANCHEZ
Antelope Staff

Baseball has always been popular, and it always will be. We're not denying football — and it is Super Bowl season. But baseball? Circa 1839, 172 years and more popular than ever following the 2016 World Series.

February is almost here, and there is a team gearing up for their season to start. The University of Nebraska at Kearney baseball program has days left until their first game of the season. With a past season record of 19 and 29, the Lopers are more than ready to begin this season with lots of excitement and a very high quality of baseball.

The first weekend of February, the Lopers will hit the road to Denver. They will face Metropolitan State University in the beautiful and breathtaking location of

downtown Denver.

In the past, this dual has been cancelled multiple times due to bad weather conditions. It is kind of risky to schedule a three-day game in Denver at the beginning of February. You never know how nice or how bad the weather can be during those dates. Stay tuned to lopers.com for up-to-date news.

Following their trip to Colorado, the Lopers will travel way down south to Arkansas, where they will be facing teams from all over the region.

During the month of February and even into early March, the majority of the games are going to be played far away from home, in “warm-weather” states. UNK baseball will be on the road the whole month of February until they host Midland University for the home opener game on March 7.

This team is different than any other team you can see on the UNK campus.

The discipline that head coach Damon Day insists upon has created a very unique culture. The players know that being in the classroom and at the baseball field is a full-time job, and that dedication dictates the way they spend their days.

When players sign to play baseball for the Lopers, they are fully aware of what the conditions are and the high expectations placed upon this team. There is no time for complaining. It is a very high-paced schedule and mentally and physically tough players are the only ones that can keep up.

There are no days off. The baseball program practices every day, including weekends. Mondays are their official “day off” since they do not have a scheduled practice time but the players use their free time to practice on their own.

The 2016-2017 team has 41 players on the roster for this season: 11 seniors, 14 juniors, five sophomores, and 11 freshmen — definitely one of the largest teams coach

Day has had in the past 14 years as the head baseball coach for the program.

The big support that UNK baseball gets from the community is reflected not only on the players’ spirit when they go out and play, but also in their facilities.

Memorial Field contains one of the premier practice facilities in NCAA Division II, with stands for over 2,000 fans. Providing UNK players and coaches with a top-notch practice facility includes a newly remodeled locker room, a team meeting area, a space with couches and TVs, the coaches’ offices, the batting cages and a two-weeks old weight room.

Every year, at the Upper Deck Club banquet, the UNK baseball program receives donations from the Kearney community and all these donations go towards making the athlete experience the best it can possibly be.

Players from all over the country as

BASEBALL, PAGE 11

This Day in History

On this day in 1971 in Los Angeles, California, cult leader Charles Manson is convicted, along with followers Susan Atkins, Leslie Van Houten, and Patricia Krenwinkel, of the brutal 1969 murders of actress Sharon Tate and six others.

In 1967, Manson, a lifetime criminal, was released from a federal penitentiary in Washington State and traveled to San Francisco, where he attracted a following among rebellious young women with troubled emotional lives. Manson established a cult based on his concept of “Helter Skelter”—an apocalyptic philosophy predicting that out of an imminent racial war in America would emerge five ruling angels: Manson, who would take on the

role of Jesus Christ, and the four members of the Beatles. Manson convinced his followers that it would be necessary to murder celebrities in order to attract attention to the cult, and in 1969 they targeted Sharon Tate, a marginally successful actress who was married to Roman Polanski, a film director.

On the night of August 9, 1969, with detailed instructions from Manson, four of his followers drove up to Cielo Drive above Beverly Hills and burst into Polanski and Tate’s home.

During the next few hours, they engaged in a murderous rampage that left five dead, including a very pregnant Sharon Tate, three of her friends, and an 18-year-old man who was visiting the caretaker of the estate. The next night, Manson



followers murdered Leno and Rosemary LaBianca in their home. The cases went unsolved for over a year before the Los Angeles Police Department discovered the Manson connection. Various members of his cult confessed, and Manson and five others were indicted on charges of murder and conspiracy to commit murder.

In January 1972, Manson and three others were found guilty, and on March 29, all four were sentenced to death. The trial of another

defendant, Charles “Tex” Watson, was delayed by extradition proceedings, but he was likewise found guilty and sentenced to death. In 1972, the California Supreme Court abolished the death penalty in California, and Manson and his followers’ death sentences were reduced to life imprisonment.

To learn more, please visit:

<http://www.history.com/this-day-in-history>

*Infographic by
Rachael Fangmeier*

Nutrishop jump-starts wellness in new year

Owner Lind challenges contestants to become winners by losing weight, gaining muscle

MICAELA KLASSEN
Antelope Staff

Jake Lind, owner of Nutrishop in Kearney, is promoting health and wellness in the local community by offering the Kearney Body Transformation Challenge: changing the way you look. While initial weigh-ins began Jan. 2, Nutrishop is still accepting participants through Jan. 31.

The challenge opened Jan. 2 with initial weigh ins and free nutrition consultations, as well as customized meal plans. Upon entering the competition, contestants receive free items such as shaker cups, gym towels and body composition analyses.

Contestants are split into four categories: women under the age of 35, men under the age of 35, women 35 and older and men 35 and older. Winners will be determined by a point system.

Contestants will receive one point for each of the following: loss of one pound in fat, loss of one percentage in body fat or one pound gain in muscle. The point system allows anybody to join that is trying

to lose weight, gain muscle or do both.

Nutrishop is using an InBody test scale to track each participant's progress. Contestants step barefooted onto the InBody scale, hold onto the hand electrodes with arms away from their bodies and wait to be provided with an accurate body composition reading.

InBody informs users of more than the average scale. The InBody scale will show weight, body fat mass, total body water and will also weigh each body part. On top of compartmentalizing the weight of body parts, contestants will receive an obesity and muscle-fat analysis.

Lind is aware that not everyone will know how to read and understand the InBody test and he has trained his employees to effectively describe each part of the test to all contestants.

Once a participant joins, they will need to weigh in every two weeks until the final weigh-ins during the week of March 9-14 to be eligible for the \$100 Nutrishop gift card distributed to first place winners of each four categories.

Although Lind is seeking to jump-start health and wellness this year in the Kearney community, he has noticed that the competition is helping his January business as well. "Our sales have increased incredibly this month. It's nice because people will hear about the challenge and want to participate with a friend, so they

bring that friend in with them. Although we do not require contestants to purchase any products, we get participants buying something when they first come in. It's really helped boost sales this year," Lind said.

Nutrishop is currently at about 115 participants for the transformation challenge and is offering all contestants 15 percent off non-sale purchases with their free biweekly InBody analysis.

Lind also plans to have another body transformation challenge this coming spring.

Nutrishop has been serving the Kearney community since 2014 by offering fitness training tips, education and the highest-quality supplements at affordable prices.

They are located two blocks north of Walgreens and next to Erbert & Gerbert's Sandwich Shop at 2715 Second Ave. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday. Its website is www.nutrishopkearney.com. E-mail is nutrishopkearney@gmail.com and the phone number is 224-3277.

Lind is also active on social media. He has created a Facebook account: Nutrishop Kearney, an Instagram account: NutrishopKearney and a Snapchat: nutrishopkrny to promote his knowledge of his stores products.



Photo by Micaela Klassen

The Nutrishop's InBody scale can measure fat, muscle and water levels in less than a minute after client steps on the scale.

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Print, Online Adviser
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Ad Adviser
Terri Diffenderfer
Contact for Antelope Advertising:
antelopeads@unk.edu
The Antelope
166 Mitchell Center
UNK – Kearney, NE 68849
Contact for Antelope News:
antelopeneeds@unk.edu

Experiencing the 'real world'

Students share internship experiences with FDIC, graphic design company

ABBIE ROHR
Antelope Staff

It seems one can't shimmy their way through college without an internship, which come in many forms.

For many students, they help in adjusting to the "real world" without having to dive in all at once. Some are paid while others are unpaid. At some you simply make sure everyone has their coffee and at others you work diligently for hours trying to complete tasks. Whether dreaded or welcomed, internships are necessary.

Jared Cline and Joshua Griffith didn't sit in a cubicle on Reddit all day. They took their future into their own hands and lived out their internships to the fullest.



"I enjoyed exploring the FDIC as a future employer and experiencing what the life of a

bank examiner is like before blindly deciding on my post-graduation career."

/ Jared Cline

Jared Cline is a senior from Kearney expecting to graduate this May. He is in the final stretch of his college career and at the beginning of his "real world" career.

Cline is a business administration major with a concentration in finance. He grabbed his future by the horns by accepting his "Financial Management Scholar" internship in Des Moines, Iowa at the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) field office.

Cline initially found this opportunity

through an e-mail posted by a previous professor and advisor, but it wasn't as simple as turning in an application. "The email contained contact information for a Senior Risk Management Examiner out of the Grand Island field office, who helped walk me through the multiple-step application process. Ultimately, I applied for the internship through usajobs.gov after many phone calls and emails back and forth with the Senior Risk Management Examiner," Cline said.

After the application process, Cline had to endure extensive background checks and security clearance vetting and even had to take an oath of office during orientation week at the FDIC headquarters in Washington D.C. They really don't mess around at the FDIC!

"I enjoyed exploring the FDIC as a future employer and experiencing what the life of a bank examiner is like before blindly deciding on my post-graduation career," Cline said.

His hard work certainly paid off as he has already accepted a full-time position as a financial institution specialist with the FDIC field office in Kansas City.

The second intern, Joshua Griffith, is also a senior expecting to graduate in May. The interior design major is from Stromsburg and is currently interning at



"So far, I have learned the dynamics of a design firm and how a wide variety of people in different fields can produce great projects together."

/ Joshua Griffith



Courtesy

Cline poses next to FDIC seal at his summer internship in Des Moines, Iowa. He has accepted a full-time position as a financial institution specialist in Kansas City.

Wilkins Architecture Design Planning in Kearney.

At his internship, Griffith attends client meetings and goes on field verification trips where they check the measurements of the building, as well as conducting presentations.

Griffith says he enjoys being able to work in both the interior design and architectural fields while doing work as an intern. "So far, I have learned the dynamics of a design firm and how a wide variety of people in different fields can produce great projects together. I have also begun

to understand all the required stages of a project. When looking to my future career, I believe that I have experienced what a great office environment should be and what great coworkers are out there," Griffith said.

One month after graduation, Griffith plans to marry his fiancée, Heather, and search for a job in Kearney.

For Griffith, like many students, internships are a foot in the door to future careers. These two seniors are well on their way experiencing the "real world" first hand.

Audience laughs out loud

Wand transforms Lopers with hypnosis for 29th consecutive year



Photo by Jessica Turek

1. Jim Wand, one of the world's top-ranked professional hypnotists, has been involved in hypnosis for over 30 years and performed his 29th consecutive UNK show Thursday, Jan. 19. Wand says he became interested in hypnosis after successfully using the process for weight loss as a freshman in college. Wand earned a Ph.D. in philosophy after studying psychology as an undergraduate.

Photo by Sydney Norris

2. Freshman Kelsey Wiehn, a pre-nursing major from Columbus, doesn't hold back any excitement as she believes to see a large Pokeman ball floating in front of her. While describing being hypnotized, Wiehn explains the tiring feeling she experiences afterwards.

Photo by Jessica Turek

3. Wand puts students back into a hypnotic state between acts.

Photo by Jessica Turek

4. Wand instructs hypnotized subjects to prepare to take to the zip line. Students proceeded to have difficulty holding onto their imaginary handles as they sped faster and faster through the air. Wand performs for nearly 14 schools each year in Nebraska, including UNL, UNO, Wesleyan and Creighton.





Photo by Jessica Turek

5. Students choose creative poses during Jim Wand's Facebook Live mannequin challenge. Soon after, Wand chose around 20 volunteer subjects to place under a hypnotic state. Wand started shows in Kearney before he became a full-time stage hypnotist, making UNK one of his longest-running venues.

Photo by Sydney Norris

6. Katie Kovanda, junior, majoring in elementary education from Grand Island, slides to the ground while pretending to be a background dancer for Fifth Harmony. She leaves it all on the stage for the short amount of dancing time.

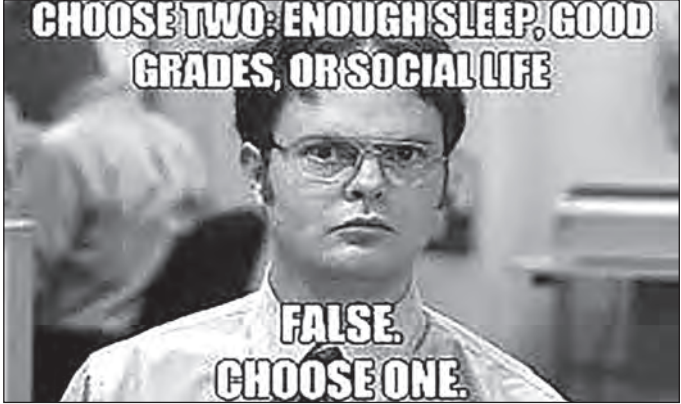
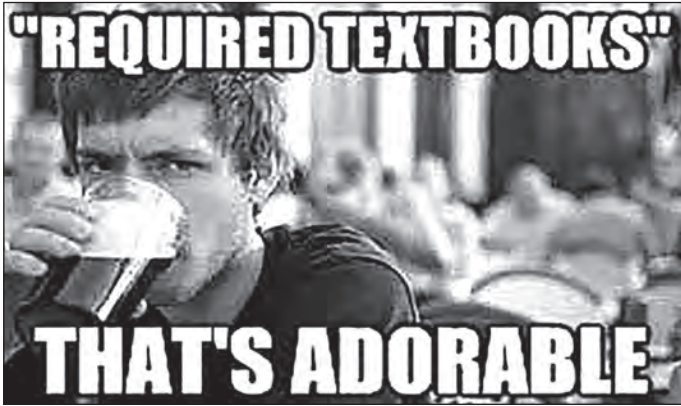
Photo by Jessica Turek

7. Wand uses his bright light to initially put the participants into a hypnotic state.



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Lienemann says 'Let the world become your home'

New this week:

Perspectives from current UNK students studying abroad, as well as the impact that time abroad has had on past UNK Abroad students.

This section will also feature International students on UNK campus.

If you have story ideas, please e-mail Mary Spencer at spencerm2@lopers.unk.edu

RACHEL PAPEZ
Antelope Staff

Study abroad opportunities at UNK take students beyond the boundaries of one's country.

"The experiences go beyond the term of study," says Erik Lienemann

"I have met so many different people from all over the world," says Lienemann, "I have seen such incredible sights like Machu Picchu of Peru to La Segrada Familia of Barcelona, Spain."

He says his favorite memory would have to be from Cuzco, Peru. "Cuzco is known for their scenery, ancient architecture and churches, along with their incredible night life. It was absolutely the best time I have ever had. I became very close to the group I was studying with and some of my best friends came out of that group."

"We still keep in touch to this day, even though some of them have moved away. The connections are a one-of-a-kind thing to experience; you really have to go to understand that."

"I believe that everyone should study abroad. It opens up the world to each



Courtesy

Lienemann has traveled from Peru to Spain and back always ready to meet people, including these friends in Peru.

“The connections are a one-of-a-kind thing to experience; you really have to go to understand that.”

/ Erik Lienemann

student; they discontinue being close-minded. For me, studying abroad in Peru was my first long-term living experience outside of Nebraska, my home. Now, I consider myself a traveler where the world is my home.”

Lienemann spent one semester in Peru and two summers in Spain. He said, "I went to Spain to study Spanish for a



LIENEMANN

summer term. I fell in love with the culture and the people. I had such an amazing adventure there. I plan on making my way to the places I have been every so often to visit with the people that I met."

Recently, Lienemann returned to visit his host family, the Eiroa-Grelas, in Spain.

Lienemann said all of the experiences gained throughout time in both Spain and Peru are definitely once in a lifetime. "I also hope to travel to other destinations around this beautiful world that we live in; experiencing all of the different cultures,

languages, and people," he said. "Traveling can be, and most definitely is, an addiction. I would definitely recommend studying abroad to any student."

LEARN MORE?

Check out upcoming issues.

Browse Study Abroad.

@E-mail:

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to schedule an appointment.

Agencies advise knowledge is power

Panel for stalking awareness says when in doubt, 'listen to your gut'

MEGHAN WIEDEBURG

Antelope Staff

A stalking awareness panel conducted in the Nebraskan Student Union Cedar Room Thursday, Jan. 19 was made up of representatives from the Kearney S.A.F.E. Center, UNK Police Department, Kearney Police Department and Women's Center.

For the January National Stalking Awareness Month, the panel of agencies, both on campus and in the Kearney community, shared their experiences and expertise with the students in attendance.

"The best thing you can do is get informed," Robin Phipps, S.A.F.E. Center representative, said at the event. Stalking has an assortment of definitions and varies from case to case, which makes it hard to predict and prosecute.

Panel member Joann Andersen, Victim Witness Director at the Kearney Police Department, said that stalking behaviors start by actions that appear completely harmless. The individual's behaviors aren't crimes, but when pieced together forming

a pattern, they can become dangerous.

Sergeant Ricci Fast highlighted the advantage of being on a campus our size. "[The] four agencies come together to help students in these situations. We are here to facilitate, and to get you where you need to be. We are all on the same team trying to combat problems such as stalking."

The panel advised that knowledge of stalking and its behaviors can help in prevention. Adding variety to your daily routines is a great way to pursue safety and prevention because having a predictable routine can make you an easy target.

Frequent and unwanted behaviors from another person that might seem like a coincidence, probably isn't a coincidence. Fix said, "Listen to your gut and don't be afraid to speak up."

Andersen said, "It's OK to say no to any behaviors that make you feel uncomfortable. It doesn't have to be taken personally, and it shouldn't matter if you're male or female. Setting boundaries is necessary, and healthy, in relationships."



Photos by Rachel Arehart

Robin Phipps, Kiphany Hof, Sergeant Ricci Fast and Joann Andersen came together from the Kearney community and UNK campus to educate students on stalking.

"We are all here to help you be safe. We are not competing for your case, we are working together," Sergeant Phipps said.

The number of females who identify as stalkers has jumped from 13 percent to 20 percent in the last year, leaving the other 80 percent as males. A stalker could be anyone, but generally it's someone you know in some way, shape or form.

The panel encouraged students to reach out if in a dangerous situation. These services and agencies are more than equipped to help. Stop into their offices or simply call and they will help get you where you need to be.



Thirty-five students attended the event where they learned information about appropriate responses to stalking.

UNK services offered

- The Women's Center and UNK PD are both equipped to help students with stalking and various other situations they might encounter.
- The UNK campus offers a wide variety of services to its students. When it comes to health and safety services alone, the university provides Title IX training, sexual assault prevention and misconduct, counseling and health care, emergency planning and UNK alert and security

reports through the annual Clery Report.

- Title IX training is an online course that is free and takes approximately 45 minutes to complete. The student training talks about sexual assault prevention, including domestic violence, dating violence, stalking and by-stander behavior.

- UNK takes pride in offering students access to quality, convenient and affordable health care. It's important for students to feel safe on campus

and can be a vital part of their overall success.

- To maintain a healthy mind and body while at UNK, there are four offices to help students. The Counseling Center, Student Health, Health Education and Women's Center are all readily available for students to use.

Location, operation hours and more information about these services can be found on www.unk.edu.

SPORTS from page 1

just a few years ago. It's not about children's enjoyment anymore – often it's now a competition between adults and their egos.

O'Sullivan suggests that kids are often reminded of the money and time devoted by their parents, adding unnecessary stress. Some parents today are very pushy, placing an exceeding amount of pressure on their children to perform at a high level

As a result, the child-parent relationship is suffering.

Athletic scholarships now come into question before a child enters high school. It's ridiculous to ask preteens to commit to collegiate athletic programs. Unfortunately, this is reality.

Children now are also expected to play one sport year-round, also known as specialization. Coaches and parents allow this to happen in an effort to maximize specific talents.

However, specialization is an unhealthy practice. Children become overloaded with one sport and become emotionally and physically worn out or feel too pressured.

According to Shelton Public School's physical education instructor, Matthew Walter, specialization can actually limit a young athlete's abilities.

"Colleges are looking for well-rounded athletes. Every sport allows you to develop and enhance different fundamentals. Specialization prevents you from growing as a whole athlete," Walter said.

This is not an endorsement to withdraw the competitive aspect from youth sports. In fact, I'm a nonbeliever in handing out participation trophies.

There must be an appropriate balance between fun and discipline. A "win at all cost" mentality is not beneficial to children.

Kids are afraid to make mistakes for fear of extreme ridicule and harsh criticism. In what world is it socially acceptable to treat others like this?

This kind of behavior doesn't take place outside of the sports environment. Yelling and screaming at children for mistakes will only deter them from future participation.

Children play sports to have fun, not to win. It is parents and coaches' responsibility to encourage, educate and guide kids into becoming good and decent people – not the next pro athlete.

While discipline is necessary, the proper way to execute it is crucial.

Praise kids in a way that is helpful

rather than harmful. Let them know it is OK to fail, or they won't learn from their mistakes. This type of learning translates to the real world.

Promote a positive environment that lets all kids participate, have fun and grow. That's youth sport's purpose.

O'Sullivan came up with five words that all parents should relay to their children:

"I love watching you play."

This kind of support is proven to boost children's love for the game, and doesn't focus on their performance. Instead, it provides them with positive reassurance, O'Sullivan says.

Athletics should shape kids to become not only better athletes, but more importantly, should create better people. It all starts at fixing the youth level.

BASEBALL from page 3

well as two international players participate in a great baseball program that brings more than just wins or losses to the table. The brotherhood that these 41 players build and the way they show it when they go out and play is pretty difficult to describe with just words.

Baseball fans sure know that this group of players are going to bring us a good "Loper-show" this season. We cannot wait to see what this season has in store for Loper baseball.

CAMPUS CRIME LOG

JAN 7: Responded to Mantor Hall in reference to an active fire alarm. Upon investigation, it was discovered someone intentionally set off a fire extinguisher in a room and hallway. A male subject was also issued a citation for minor in consumption of alcohol. Case closed.

JAN 7: Two subjects attempted to remove a disabled vehicle from the roadway. It was discovered one of the subjects had an open container of alcohol in the vehicle. Citation was issued for open container. Case closed.

BB TEAMS TAKE TO HOME COURT BEFORE HITTING ROAD



Photos by Todd Rundstrom

Junior guard Yashua Trent splits three defenders on his way to score during the Lopers' game against rival Ft. Hays State on Jan. 12. UNK defeated Ft. Hays 86-89. The Lopers are currently 12-6 (5-4 in the MIAA) and will play at home again on Thursday Jan. 26 at 7:30 against Lindenwood University (14-8, 4-6).



Sophomore guard McKenzie Brown drives up the court past a Fort Hays defender during the Lady Lopers' game against the Tigers. UNK lost 51-57. The Lady Lopers are currently 5-12 (1-8 in the MIAA) and will play at home again Thursday Jan. 26 at 5:30 against Lindenwood University (7-10, 3-7).



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UNKANTELOPE.COM

Pulling Haiti out of poverty

Bickford spends 9 days in Central Plateau collecting information to help create service training program

BROCK MADSEN
Antelope Staff

The University of Nebraska system is organizing time and expertise to help the suffering country of Haiti, by creating an extension service training program and sending specialists in fields like engineering, health, agriculture and business to Haiti.

James Goedert, engineering professor at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, is working to create a sustainable, school-building program at the Flower of Hope School in Haiti. His wife, Martha Goedert, assistant professor at the University of Nebraska Medical center, educates birth attendants, focusing on Haiti's problems with high maternal and infant mortality.

The Goederts came to see University of Nebraska at Kearney's associate professor, Dr. Nate Bickford, who was eager to use his expertise in aquaponics to establish responsible agricultural practices in Haiti.

With the Goederts' combined efforts, there will soon be more schools in Haiti and more children surviving to school age. The program has its plans for improving education and healthcare in Haiti, but another major aspect in need of improvement is agricultural practices.

Bickford said he became personally involved with the program when he saw how the University of Nebraska can help the suffering nation, and his confidence in the University's ability to help is quite inspiring.

With the few successful farms they have, Haitians can't produce enough food to feed the country. This puts Haiti in a state of dependence, relying heavily on food imports from other countries.

"What Haiti really needs is the opportunity to learn, the opportunity to learn how to make the most out of the few resources they have. And that's what Universities do; we teach people," Bickford said. "We, as a university are



Courtesy

Bickford, right, with local pastor in charge of one of the programs sites (middle) and a man named Threese, (left) who oversees another site and started one school currently under construction by university's program.

probably more equipped to provide such education compared to non-government organizations or faith based mission programs, due to our abundance of highly educated and specialized personnel. We're rather sure that everything which needs to be done to fix Haiti, we can carve out of our faculty and staff's knowledge and skill sets."

Haitians educated by the visiting faculty members can then pass that knowledge onto others in their communities, creating a cycle of education. This kind of education could make it possible for Haitians to improve the quality of fundamental fields such as health, education and agriculture. The ultimate goal is to alleviate the state of dependence in the country.

Bickford visited Haiti this last

December and spent nine days in Haiti's central plateau region, making assessments on the resources available and their most effective use in agriculture. He said Haiti's agricultural sector could greatly benefit from the implementation of drip irrigation due to much of the country's limited access to fresh water.

Bickford plans to use his expertise to help introduce the practice of aquaponics to agricultural communities in Haiti. Aquaponics is a promising field that combines aquaculture and hydroponics to provide nutrient-rich water to crops.

Bickford succinctly defines the motivation and ambition of the University of Nebraska by stating, "the poverty in Haiti is terrible, however if the university of Nebraska organizes the skills, talents and drive of its faculty and students we

Haiti at a glance

- Haiti is the poorest country in the western hemisphere, with 80% of its population living in poverty.
- The education rates in Haiti are also some of the lowest in the western hemisphere. Approximately 61% of the Haitian population is literate which is very low compared to the average literacy rate of 90% seen in the neighboring Latin American and Caribbean nations.
- Public education is so underfunded in Haiti that at least 90% of the primary schools are managed by religious organizations or other non-government organizations.
- The education system in Haiti is one of the major aspects that the University of Nebraska's program aims to improve. James and Martha Goedert are running a program which aims to take a hands-on approach at doing just that.

can make long-term changes in Haiti."

Other UNK faculty from various departments are working towards achieving grant funding so they can return to Haiti this spring and further their extension service training program.

This program aims to educate Haitian communities in ways that will make it possible for them to do more than just survive on the few resources available to them. By working together with the community, the University of Nebraska system is making it possible for Haitians to pull their country out of poverty.



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